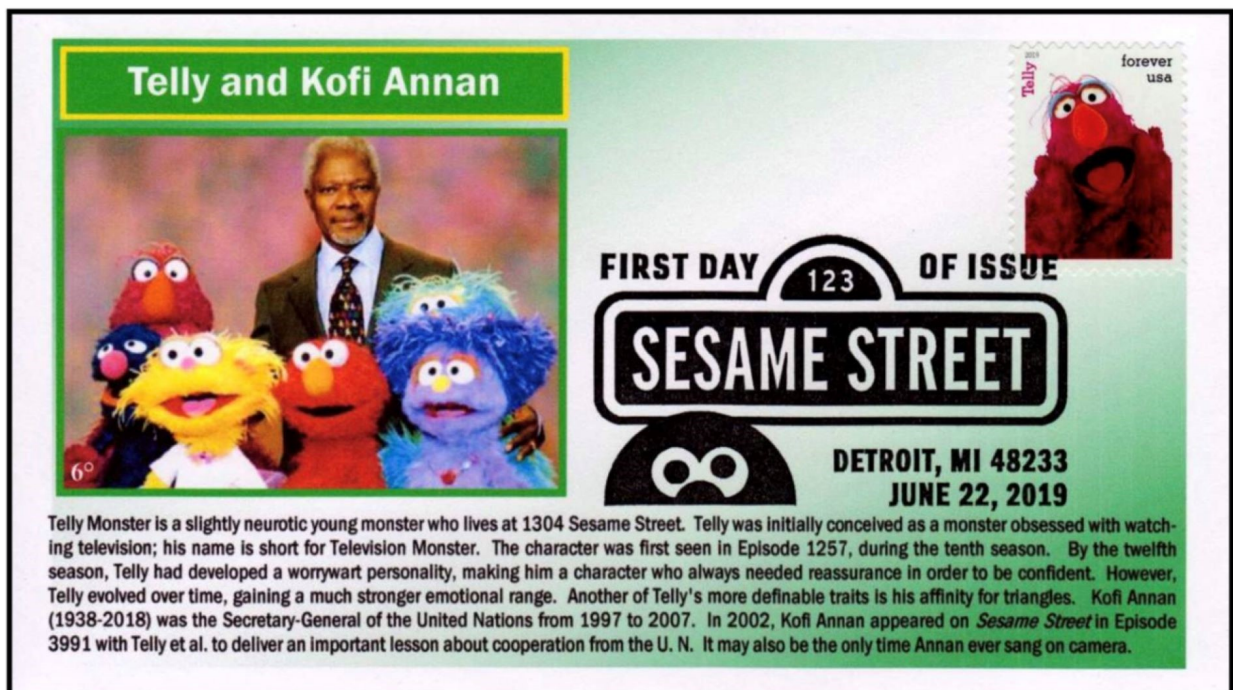


Lupita Nyong'o (b. 1983) is a Kenyan-Mexican actress and director, known for her Academy Award-winning role in the 2013 film *12 Years a Slave*. Nyong'o made her Broadway debut as a teenage orphan in the play *Eclipsed* (2015), for which she was nominated for a Tony Award for Best Actress in a Play. She went on to perform as Maz Kanata in the *Star Wars* sequel trilogy (2015–2019) and a lead voice role as Raksha in *The Jungle Book* (2016). Nyong'o's career progressed with her role as Nakia in the Marvel Cinematic Universe superhero film *Black Panther* (2018) and her starring role in Jordan Peele's critically acclaimed horror film *Us* (2019). Nyong'o also has written a children's book titled *Sulwe* (2019), which became a number one *New York Times* Best-Seller.



Kofi Annan (1938-2018) was a Ghanaian diplomat who served as the Secretary-General of the United Nations from 1997 to 2007. He has appeared on *Sesame Street* in Episode 3991, as well as the South African co-production, *Takalani Sesame*. Annan also was honored at the 2003 Annual Sesame Workshop Benefit Gala. Annan and the UN were the co-recipients of the 2001 Nobel Peace Prize. The Nobel Committee also recognized Annan's commitment to the struggle to containing the spread of HIV in Africa and his declared opposition to international terrorism. He was the founder and chairman of the Kofi Annan Foundation, as well as chairman of The Elders, an international organization founded by Nelson Mandela.

